Message to U.S. Citizens in Ecuador

Dangerous Conditions on the Pacific Coast and in the Galapagos Islands, August 11-14, 2011

August 11, 2011

The Ecuadorian National Emergency Operations Committee (COEN) is warning of high tides, heavy winds, and strong waves on the Ecuadorian coast and in the Galapagos Islands starting today, August 11, 2011, and lasting through August 14, 2011. During this time, Ecuadorian authorities are prohibiting many activities on the coast and at beaches, including water sports, fishing, and whale watching, and may set additional restrictions as the situation develops. Officials in the Galapagos Islands are also considering restrictions on boating. U.S. citizens planning boat excursions in the Galapagos should contact their tour operators to determine the status of their tours.

Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to enroll with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate in order to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador through the <u>Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u>.

U.S. citizens should consult the <u>Country Specific Information</u> for Ecuador and the latest Travel Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the <u>Department's website</u>. Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro. The telephone number for American Citizen Service (ACS) inquiries is (011 593-2) 398-5000. Within the same city use the last seven digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls. Public call-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. and Friday 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. For after-hours emergencies, contact the Embassy at (011 593-2) 398-5200. Appointments for ACS are available through our website.

The <u>U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil</u> is located at the corner of Avenida 9 de Octubre and Garcia Moreno (near the Hotel Oro Verde); telephone (011-593-4) 232-3570 during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or 232-1152 for after-hours emergencies.

Anyone can follow the activities of the U.S. Embassy in Ecuador through the <u>Embassy website</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.